

# Library Security Law

Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

**Section 16-13-331. Unauthorized removal or concealment of library property prohibited; penalty.** Whoever, without authority, with the intention of depriving the library or archive of the ownership of such property, willfully conceals a book or other library or archive property, while still on the premises of such library or archive, or willfully or without authority removes any book or other property from any library or archive or collection shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and the conviction shall be punished in accordance with the following: (1) by a fine of not more than six months; *provided*, however, that if the value of the library or archive property is less than fifty dollars, the punishment shall be a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days. Proof of the willful concealment of any book or other library or archive property while still on the premises of such library or archive shall be prima facie evidence of intent to commit larceny thereof.

**Section 16-13-332. Library personnel exempt from liability for arrest of persons suspected of concealment or removal of library property.** A library or agent or employee of the library causing the arrest of any person pursuant to the provisions of Section 16-13-331 shall not be held civilly liable for unlawful detention, slander, malicious prosecution, false imprisonment, false arrest, or assault and battery of the person so arrested, unless excessive or unreasonable force is used; whether such arrest takes place on the premises by such agent or employee; *provided that*, in causing the arrest of such person, the library or agent or employee of the library had at the time of such arrest probable cause to believe that the person committed willful concealment of books or other library property."

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